

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

BC River Forecast Centre

UPDATE – Flood Warning: Central Coast

Issued: 23 September 2011 1:00 PM

The BC River Forecast Centre is **upgrading** the advisory to a **Flood Warning** for:

- **Central Coast** (including Bella Bella, Bella Coola, Kingcome, Owikeeno Lake/River's Inlet, and surrounding areas)

A number of frontal systems have been delivering, or are forecast to deliver, heavy rain throughout regions of North and Central Coast of British Columbia. Rainfall has been heavy overnight, and into Friday, with 24-hour precipitation amounts in 40 to 120 mm range being observed.

River levels, elevated from previous rainfall, have just started to respond to overnight rainfall. The Bella Coola River above Burnt Bridge (WSC 08FB007) is currently at 500 m³/s, or a 5-year flow, and rising at approximately 6 cm/hour. The Homathko River at the mouth (WSC 08GD004) is currently at 1500 m³/s, or a 5-year flow. The Kliniklini River East Channel (Main) near the mouth (WSC 08GE002) is currently at 1670 m³/s, or a 50-year flow, and rising at 8 cm/hour. Additional heavy precipitation is forecast through the BC Coast through Saturday morning, with the potential for local amounts up to 100 mm or more over the next 24 hours.

Rivers are expected to continue to rise through Friday, and depending on the timing and amount of rainfall that falls through Friday, additional rises in rivers may continue into Saturday. Flood conditions are expected on rivers throughout the region.

The River Forecast Centre will continue to monitor conditions and will provide updates as conditions warrant.

A **High Streamflow Advisory** means that river levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly, but that no major flooding is expected. Minor flooding in low-lying areas is possible.

A **Flood Watch** means that river levels are rising and will approach or may exceed bankfull. Flooding of areas adjacent to affected rivers may occur.

A **Flood Warning** means that river levels have exceeded bankfull or will exceed bankfull imminently, and that flooding of areas adjacent to the rivers affected will result.